petroleum imports; and

(c) if so, the deadline set therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI) : (a) As per the Exim Policy, 2002—2007, as amended up to 31.3.2003, the import of petroleum products is through IOC. However, direct imports have been allowed only to those companies which have been granted marketing rights of transportation fuels in terms of Ministry of P&NG's Resolution No. P-23015/1/2001-Mkt. dated 8.3.2002.

(b) The relevant provision of the General Agreement on Tariff & Trade (GATT) 1994 of WTO does not require any member to undertake such a commitment.

(c) Does not arise.

Reduction in Industrial Duty

†4492. SHRI MATIKUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for reduction in industrial duty from WTO;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have decided to raise the issue of higher duties and non-duty related obstructions in the developed countries which are faced by the Indian exports during the course of discussion;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps Government have taken in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) to (e) Duty reductions on non-agricultural products, also commonly called industrial goods, is a subject for negotiations mandated by the Doha Ministerial Declaration of the WTO. Several WTO Members, including India, have already submitted proposals on modalities for negotiations on this issue.

India in its proposals to the WTO has included modalities that would ensure reduction in tariff peaks, i.e. the duties higher than average, as well as suggested effective addressing of the non-tariff barriers on products of its export interests. An indicative list of non-tariff barriers faced by Indian exports has also been provided to the Chairman of the Negotiating Group.

Facilities for Export of Flowers

4493. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.